

Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

AID-05 EB-07 /079 W

----- 070042

R 040300Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4123

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS SUVA 730

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR AS FJ

SUBJ: CAIRNS AND FIJI CONNECTION

REF: SUVA 725

1. ON JULY 3, FIJIAN MINISTER OF INFORMATION RATU DAVID TOGANI-VALU ISSUED OFFICIAL STATEMENT REGARDING RECENT VISIT TO FIJI BY PHILIP CAIRNS (REFTEL). RATU DAVID SAID AT TIME OF VISIT GOF HAD CLEAR IMPRESSION CAIRNS WAS ACTING WITH APPROVAL OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT. GOF HAS SINCE BEEN ADVISED THAT VISIT HAD NO OFFICIAL GOA SANCTION. ACCORDING TO HIM, IN LATE APRIL ADVICE WAS RECEIVED THROUGH FIJI HICOM CANBERRA THAT ARAB REPRESENTATIVES S. NASSER AND GENERAL M. GALAL WISHED TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH GOF ABOUT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN FIJI. THEY WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED TO FIJI BY PHILIP CAIRNS, PRIVATE SECTY TO DEPUTY PRIMIN OF AUSTRALIA. FIJI MINISTRY OF COMMERCE ADVISED CAIRN S VISIT OFFICIAL. TALKS WERE HELD IN SUVA MAY 7 AND 8 BETWEEN GENERAL GALAL, CAIRNS, AND IAN RICHARDSON, REPRESENTING RAWIA INTERNATIONAL (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LTD., AND GOF OFFICIALS (NASSER DID NOT ACCOMPANY GROUP TO FIJI).

2. RATU DAVID DESCRIBED TALKS AS EXPLORATORY, COVERING MATTERS SUCH AS POSSIBLE OIL AND SUGAR REFINERIES AND DIRECT LOAN INVESTMENT. NO REQUEST WAS MADE BY GOF FOR ANY PARTICULAR FORM OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP-
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MENT OR FINANCIAL AID. HE STRESSED THAT AT NO STAGE HAD GROUP SOUGHT FROM GOF ANY COMMITMENT AS TO BROKERAGE OR OTHER FEES. RATU DAVID SAID DISCUSSIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE WERE BY NO MEANS UNUSUAL. "THEY NOW APPEAR CURIOUS ONLY BECAUSE OF MR. CAIRN'S SOMEWHAT AMBIVALENT

POSITION."

3. LETTER FROM PERMANENT SECTY COMMERCE (REFTEL) DATED JUNE 6
WAS ADDRESSED TO CAIRNS IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRIVATE SECTY TO DEPUTY
PRIMIN. IT WAS IN RESPONSE TO LETTER FROM CAIRNS DATED MAY 19
SIGNED BY HIM AS PRIVATE SECRETARY AND THANKING GOF MINISTER OF
COMMERCE "MOST SINCERELY ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND MY MINISTER,
DR. CAIRNS, FOR YOUR KINDNESS DURING THE VISIT JUST COMPLETED".

4. AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN SUVA ALSO ISSUED STATEMENT
JULY 3, TO EFFECT THAT CAIRNS WAS IN HIS ACTIVITIES IN FIJI
"ACTING IN A PURELY PRIVATE CAPACITY. HE HAD NO AUTHORITY WHAT-
SOEVER FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS
WITH THE FIJI GOVERNMENT".
HALL

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, INVESTMENTS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 04 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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06 JUL 2006

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